

MINUTES  
JACKSON COUNTY COUNCIL  
May 18, 2011

Councilman Murphy called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM and led the Pledge of Allegiance and the Lords Prayer. Sheriff Mike Carothers did the swearing in of the Council.

Members Present: Councilman Murphy, Councilman Thompson, Councilman Brewer  
Councilman Pottschmidt, Councilman Carmichael, Councilman Wheeler,  
Councilman Prange

Others Present: Sheriff Mike Carothers, Attorney Susan Bevers, Auditor Debra Eggeman

Councilman Thompson made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 20, 2011 minutes as presented. Councilman Wheeler seconded. Seven (7) yes votes, motion carried.

Councilman Thompson reported that he attended a meeting on May 10, regarding state funding of local government. The discussion included the Streamlining of Local Government, User Fees, Impact Fees, Local Option Income Tax and Tax Increment Financing.

Councilman Prange reported that he recently attended a meeting of the Seymour Chamber of Commerce. There is an interest in working with the Jackson County Visitors Center on promoting sites county wide.

Andrew Nehrt with Pro-Form Plastics, Inc. appeared before Council requesting renewal of a 10 year tax abatement. Improvements made are the additional of a 12,000 sq. ft. warehouse and a 8,000 sq. ft. building addition. Councilman Prange made a motion to approve the request. Councilman Brewer seconded. Seven (7) yes votes, motion carried.

Tony Nehrt with Brownstown Quality Tool appeared before Council requesting a personal property tax abatement. New equipment added is a wire travel electrical discharge machine. Councilman Thompson made a motion to approve the request. Councilman Prange seconded. Seven (7) yes votes, motion carried.

Steve Donald with Silgan Plastics appeared before Council requesting a renewal of a personal property tax abatement for equipment used in production of plastic containers. Councilman Thompson made a motion to approve the request. Councilman Wheeler seconded. Seven (7) yes votes, motion carried.

Jack Napier with Murray Investment Properties, LLC appeared before Council requesting an abatement on real estate improvements. Murray Investments was formerly Crothersville Supply Company. The additional of a 24,000 sq. ft. building was erected for housing of new manufacturing equipment as well as space for a warehouse. Councilman Thompson made a motion to approve the request. Councilman Brewer seconded. Seven (7) yes votes, motion carried.

Council President Murphy made the first reading of the additional appropriation requests. Councilman Brewer made a motion to approve on first reading. Councilman Carmichael seconded. Seven (7) yes votes, motion carried.

Highway Supervisor Warren Martin was not in attendance but submitted two additional requests as follows: 1) \$100,000.00 from the Cumulative Bridge Fund for work on Bridge #189 2) \$50,000.00 from the Cumulative Bridge Fund for Bridge Inspection costs. Councilman Thompson made a motion to approve both requests. Councilman Brewer seconded. Seven (7) yes votes, motion carried.

Council President Murphy made the first reading of the Emergency Transfer Requests. Councilman Brewer made a motion to approve upon first reading. Councilman Thompson seconded. Seven (7) yes votes, motion carried.

Emergency Transfers were received from the Health Department to transfer funds from the Tobacco Grant Fund to the Local Health Maintenance Fund. There will be no future funding to the Tobacco Grant. After much discussion Councilman Carmichael made a motion to table the request to allow a representative from the Health Department to provide more information. Councilman Wheeler seconded. Seven (7) yes votes, motion carried.

Emergency Management Director Duane Davis appeared before Council requesting an Emergency Transfer from 1-31-131 (Per Diem) to 1-31-322 (Conf/Training) in the amount of \$480.00. Councilman Brewer made a motion to approve the request. Councilman Prange seconded. Seven (7) yes votes, motion carried.

Councilman Thompson spoke on the issue of replacing the inventory tax stating that the deadline for Council to make a decision is October 31, 2011. Councilman Thompson stated that he is not prepared at this time to make a decision and directed the public and fellow Councilmen to look at the frequently asked questions on the Department of Local Government Finance website. Bill Lasater spoke on the issue stating that he has attended Council meetings four separate times trying to get Council to reconsider a decision on tax credits and replacing the inventory tax with an income tax. Seymour Mayor Craig Luedeman also spoke urging Council to leave the credits as is. Councilman Thompson stated that Council will need to study the issue completely before making a decision.

Sheriff Mike Carothers submitted the Jail Report and Inmate Meal Expense Report for April 2011.

Councilman Wheeler made a motion to adjourn. Councilman Thompson seconded. Seven (7) yes votes, motion carried.

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Charlie Murphy – President

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Greg Prange

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Dennis Carmichael

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Brian Wheeler

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J.L. Brewer

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Leon Pottschmidt

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Brian Thompson

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Debra Eggeman - attest

